WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Power Production in the Hydro-Electric Sector

†*246.SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI BARJINDER SINGH HAMDARD:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to promote the production of power in hydro-electric sector;

(b) if not, reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have found out the possibilities of utilization of capacity of power production in the hydro-electric sector in northern, eastern, western and southern regions of the country; and

(d) if so, the total amount of un-utilised power production capacity in each region and what are the schemes to utilize the same?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government had announced a policy on hydro power development in August, 1998 with the objective of accelerating the pace of hydro power development in the country. The share of hydro power has been continuously declining during the last three decades. As against an ideal hydel-thermal mix of 40:60, the share has gone down from 44% in 1970s to 25% in 1999. An improvement in the hydel thermal mix is proposed to be achieved by (i) completion of the on-going hydroelectric projects; (ii) initiating advance action for obtaining necessary approvals in respect of new hydroelectric projects for which DPR is available; and (iii) initiating work on survey and investigation in respect of new green field sites to enable preparation of DPR so that necessary approvals could be obtained and projects taken up for execution in a phased manner.

(c) and (d) The Central Electricity Authority on the basis of assessment carried out during 1978-87 had assessed the economically exploitable hydro potential of the country at 84,044 MW at 60% load factor. The region-wise position as on 1.12.1999 with regard to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

assessed potential, potential developed and under development is indicated in Annexure: *[See Appendix 188, Annexure No. 37]*

There is a substantial scope for promoting Hydroelectric projects in North Eastern and Northern regions. A list of hydroelectric project under execution is at Annexure ; *[See Appendix 188, Annexure No. 37]*. The region-wise list of hydroelectric projects in the Central Sector which are proposed to be taken up for benefits during the 10th Plan is at Annexure * *See Appendix 188, Annexure No. 37]* The region-wise list of projects to be taken up in the Central Sector in respect of which survey and investigations are proposed to be taken up in order to enable preparation of DPRs is at Annexure-IV. *[See Appendix 188, Annexure No. 37]*.

In the Southern region, efforts are being made in consultation with the Governments of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to promote hydroelectric projects in the Cauvery basin which could not be taken up due to inter-state river dispute.

Reservation for Infantry Officers

*247.SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Adjutant-General branch has recently issued orders to the effect that 60% of ail general cadre posts of Brigather, Major-General, etc. would be reserved for infantry officers, which has caused serious resentment amongst senior officers of other corps; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons for ignoring the claim of senior officers of other branches of Defence Services?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERN ANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Modernisation of jute industry

*248. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is act that there was a corpus fund of Rs. 150 crores for modernisation of jute industry;